

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a thermometer, and the distal end of the tubular body being substantially enclosed by a film, the distal end including at least one end rib disposed about an inner circumference thereof, the at least one end rib configured to engage the distal end of the thermometer such that the distal end of the thermometer is spaced apart from the film.

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2. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein an outer circumference of the distal end of the body has an arcuate surface.

3. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the distal end of the body includes a plurality of end ribs disposed about the inner circumference thereof.

4. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the end rib includes a transverse portion disposed along a surface of the film.

20 5. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the end rib includes a longitudinal portion extending along the body.

25 6. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the end rib includes a longitudinal portion extending proximally along the body and a transverse portion projecting along a surface of the film such that the longitudinal portion and the transverse portion cooperate to receive the distal end of the thermometer.

7. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines at least one longitudinal rib projecting from an inner surface thereof and being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

5 8. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines a plurality of longitudinal ribs projecting from an inner circumferential surface thereof, the longitudinal ribs being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

9. A probe cover as recited in claim 8, wherein the longitudinal ribs are configured to
10 facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

10. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines at least one protuberance projecting from an inner surface thereof, the least one protuberance being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

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11. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner circumferential surface thereof, the plurality of protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

12. A probe cover as recited in claim 11, wherein the protuberances are configured to
20 facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

13. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines at least one protuberance projecting from an outer surface thereof, the at least one protuberance being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

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14. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an outer circumferential surface thereof, the plurality of protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

5 15. A probe cover as recited in claim 14, wherein the protuberances are configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

16. A probe cover as recited in claim 15, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner surface thereof and being proximally spaced from 10 the distal end of the body, the protuberances being configured to facilitate nesting with a third probe cover.

17. A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body extends in a tapered configuration from the proximal end to the distal end.

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18. A probe cover comprising:

.. a tubular body portion extending in a tapered configuration from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a tympanic thermometer, and

20 the distal end being substantially enclosed by a film and including a plurality of end ribs disposed about an inner circumference thereof,

the end ribs having a longitudinal portion extending proximally along the body portion and a transverse portion projecting along a transverse surface of the film, the longitudinal portion and the transverse portion being configured to receivably engage the 25 distal end of the tympanic thermometer for support therein such that the distal end of the tympanic thermometer is spaced apart from the film.

19. A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body portion extending in a tapered configuration from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a tympanic thermometer, and

5 the body portion defining a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner surface and an outer surface of the body portion, the protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end and disposed circumferentially about a wall of the body portion, the protuberances disposed on the outer surface being configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover and the protuberances disposed on the inner surface being configured to
10 facilitate nesting with a third probe cover.

20. A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a thermometer, and
15 the distal end of the tubular body being substantially enclosed by a film, whereby the film is stretched upon receipt of the distal end of the thermometer.